

**OVERSIGHT PLAN OF THE
COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET
FOR THE 113TH CONGRESS**

Resolved: That the Committee on the Budget, pursuant to clause 2(d) of House Rule X, adopts as the Oversight Plan of the Committee on the Budget for the 113th Congress the following:

COMMITTEE JURISDICTION/OVERSIGHT

Under clause 2(d) of House Rule X, each Committee is required to adopt and submit to the Committees on Oversight and Government Reform and House Administration an oversight plan by February 15 of the first session of each Congress. The Budget Committee's oversight responsibilities include both the breadth of the Federal budget and its legislative jurisdiction.

Under clause 1(d)(1) of House Rule X, the primary responsibility of the Budget Committee is the development of a concurrent budget resolution that sets spending and revenue levels in aggregate and across 21 budget functions.

Although the subject matter of the budget is inherently broad, in addition to oversight of the budget and the economy, the Committee's formal oversight responsibility includes laws governing the budget process and the agencies responsible for administering elements of those laws. Under clauses 1(d)(1)-(3) of House Rule X, the major laws falling within its oversight are the Budget and Accounting Act of 1920, the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974, the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995, the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, and the Budget Control Act of 2011. The two agencies with primary responsibility for administering elements of these laws and hence which fall under the Committee's jurisdiction are the Office of Management and Budget [OMB] and the Congressional Budget Office [CBO].

In addition to these general oversight responsibilities, the Budget Committee has the special oversight responsibility under clause 3(c) of House Rule X to study the effect of budget outlays of existing and proposed legislation and to request and evaluate continuing studies of tax expenditures.

OVERSIGHT PLAN FOR 113TH CONGRESS

Budget Priorities

In the process of developing the annual concurrent budget resolution, the Committee will hold hearings and receive testimony from Members of Congress, Cabinet-level and other Federal officials, State and local officials, and expert witnesses to review the budget and economic outlook, the President's budget submissions and other budget proposals.

The Committee will review and pursue budget process reform legislation.

The Committee will assess the performance of Federal agencies in both administration and service delivery by reviewing performance data in the President's budget submissions and the relevant reports and audits of the Government Accountability Office and the Offices of the Inspectors General.

The Committee will study the budgetary effect of existing law and proposed legislation, as well as government regulation, on government spending, and explore ways of reducing waste, fraud, and abuse in government agencies.

The Committee will draw on the authorizing Committee's Views and Estimates on the President's Budget, which are submitted to it pursuant to section 301(d) of the Congressional Budget Act, to coordinate its oversight activities with other Committees.

The Committee will continue to review the budgetary treatment of assistance to, and ongoing operations of, Federal National Mortgage Association (Fannie Mae) and Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (Freddie Mac).

Budget Enforcement

The Committee will provide ongoing oversight of the Office of Management and Budget's implementation of budget submission, control, execution, and enforcement procedures under the Budget and Accounting Act of 1921, the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the Budget Enforcement Act of 1990, and the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, and other applicable laws.

The Committee will assess the extent to which both the President's budget submissions and the budget resolutions for fiscal years 2014 and 2015 comply with applicable budget laws. The Committee will also work to ensure compliance of the budget-related provisions of H. Res. 5.¹

As part of these responsibilities, the chair may provide authoritative guidance concerning the impact of a legislative proposition on the levels of new budget authority, outlays, direct spending, new entitlement authority and revenues.²

The Committee will enforce spending limitations and improve accountability pursuant to H. Res. 5, prohibiting consideration of a bill, joint resolution, amendment or conference report if the provisions of such measure have the net effect of increasing mandatory outlays.³

In addition, the Committee will monitor reclassifications of budget accounts, reestimates of the subsidies of credit programs, consistency in cost estimates for direct spending and tax bills, compliance with the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 and other relevant laws, in the development of budget projections, and changes in spend-out rates for discretionary programs, and implementation of performance plans.

¹ H. Res. 5 (Adopting Rules for the One Hundred Thirteenth Congress) Rule #XXIX, Clause 4.

² H. Res. 5 (Adopting Rules for the One Hundred Thirteenth Congress) Rule #XXIX, Clause 4.

³ H. Res. 5 (Adopting Rules for the One Hundred Thirteenth Congress) Rule #XXI, Clause 10.

The Committee will work with the Appropriations Committee and the authorizing Committees to ensure that spending and tax legislation does not breach the appropriate levels in the budget resolution, as required under sections 302(f) and 311(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 or violate the budget provisions of H.Res. 5.

Direct Spending and Tax Expenditures

The Committee will request and evaluate continuing studies of tax expenditures and direct spending by the Federal Government, and whether they are the most appropriate and efficient means to achieve specified public policy goals.

Economic Policy

The Committee will study how economic policies affect the Federal budget. The Committee will also study monetary policy and its effects on the Federal budget. The Committee plans to take testimony from the Chairman of the Federal Reserve, Ben Bernanke to review economic conditions, fiscal conditions, and monetary policy.

OVERSIGHT SCHEDULE

The following are the Committee's initial plans for hearings and other oversight activities.

First Session (2013)

Winter 2013—Hearing on CBO's Economic and Budget Outlook—Director of CBO.

Winter 2013—Hearing on the President's Fiscal Year 2014 Budget—Director of OMB.

Winter 2013—Hearing on the President's Fiscal Year 2014 Budget—Treasury Secretary.

Winter 2013—Hearing on the President's Fiscal Year 2014 Budget—Members of Congress.

Winter 2013—Possible additional hearings on the President's budget and the budget outlook.

Winter 2013—Receive Views and Estimates from other Committees to coordinate development of the annual concurrent budget resolution.

Winter 2013—Possible hearing on Federal entitlement spending and the long-term budget outlook.

Winter-Spring 2013—Possible field hearings.

Spring 2013—Hearing on the economy —Chairman of the Federal Reserve Board.

Summer 2013—Hearing on the long-term budget outlook.

Possible additional hearings to review federal spending, taxes, deficits, debt, the federal budget process, and the economy.

Second Session (2014)

Winter 2014—Hearing on CBO's Economic and Budget Outlook—Director of CBO.

Winter 2014—Hearing on the President's Fiscal Year 2015 Budget—Director of OMB.

Winter 2014—Hearing on the economy

Winter 2014—Hearing on the President's Fiscal Year 2015 Budget—Treasury Secretary.

Winter 2014—Hearing on the President's Fiscal Year 2015 Budget—Members of Congress.

Winter 2014—Receive Views and Estimates from other Committees to coordinate in developing the annual concurrent budget resolution.

Summer 2014—Hearing on the long-term budget outlook.

Possible additional hearings may include reviewing federal spending, taxes, deficits, debt, and the economy.

The Committee will also conduct research, examine programs, and prepare analyses of fiscal and economic issues with an emphasis on providing for a more effective and accountable Federal government.